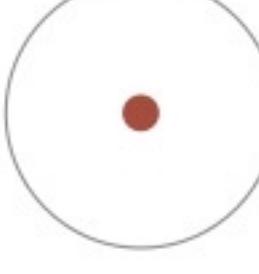
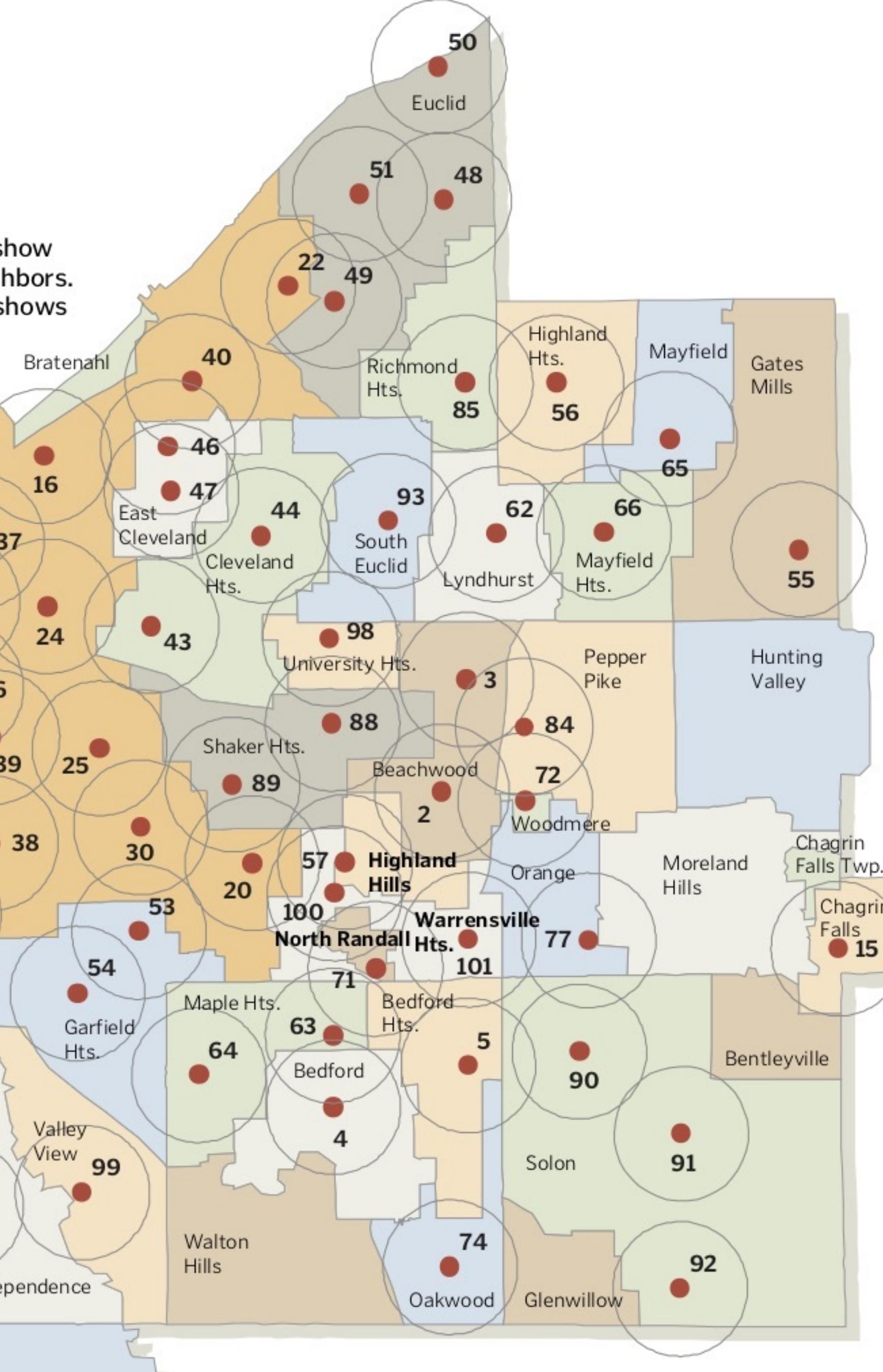
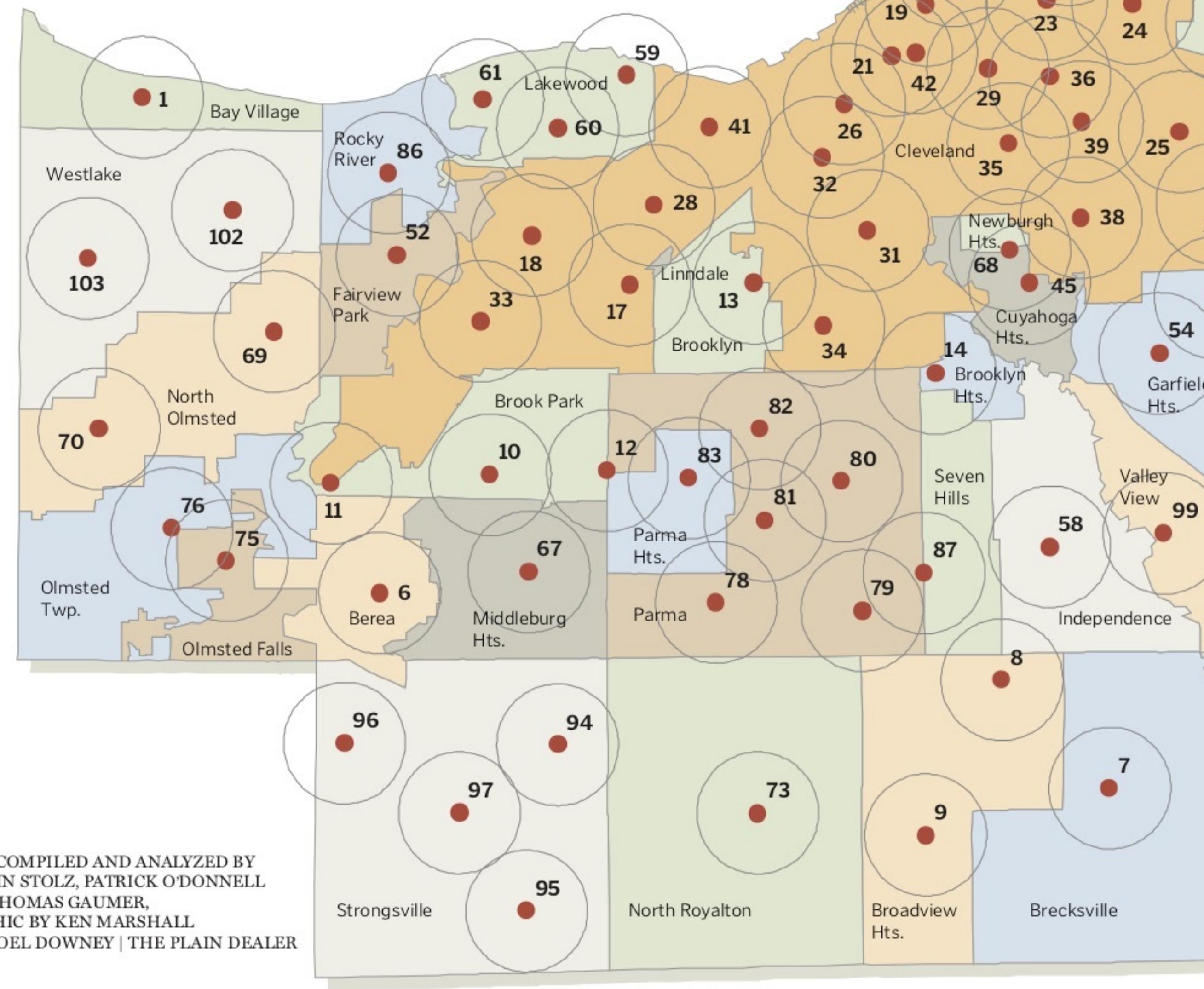


Where's the fire [station]?

Cuyahoga County is home to 51 municipal fire departments with 103 fire stations. This map and accompanying chart show that most stations have potentially overlapping service areas, but each department operates independently of its neighbors. The combined cost to taxpayers is more than \$200 million. What's wrong with that picture? Some leaders say that it shows needless and costly duplication and offers a compelling reason to consolidate all of the departments into one.

 Fire station location and area within one mile of the station.
(Number refers to station on the chart below.)



How many stations for three communities?

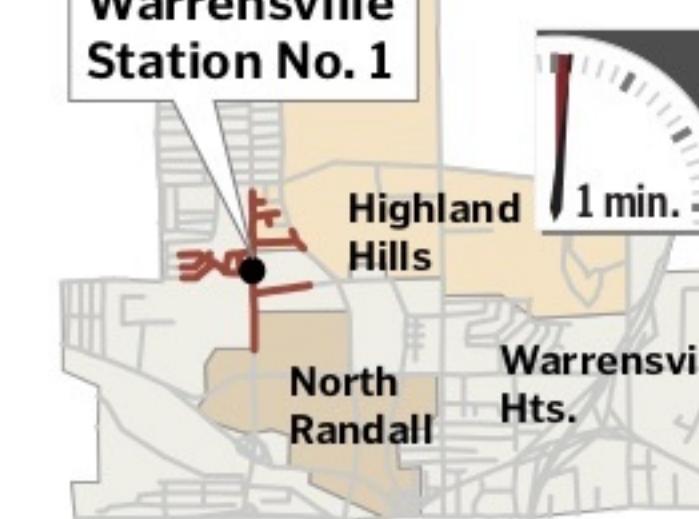
In a research paper last year, Cleveland State University urban planning student Archie Tse mapped how much area firefighters could cover from fire stations in Warrensville Heights, Highland Hills and North Randall in the minutes after a 9-1-1 call. Tse calculated:

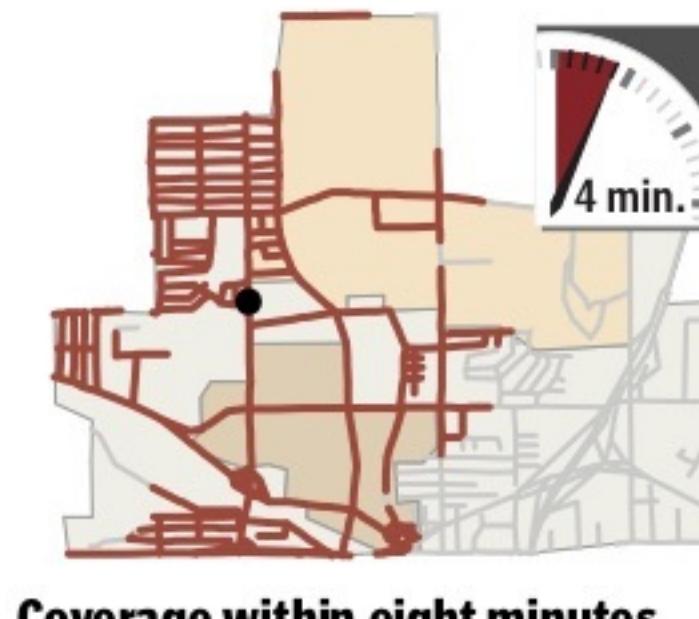
Within four minutes: The stations could cover a lot of the same ground.

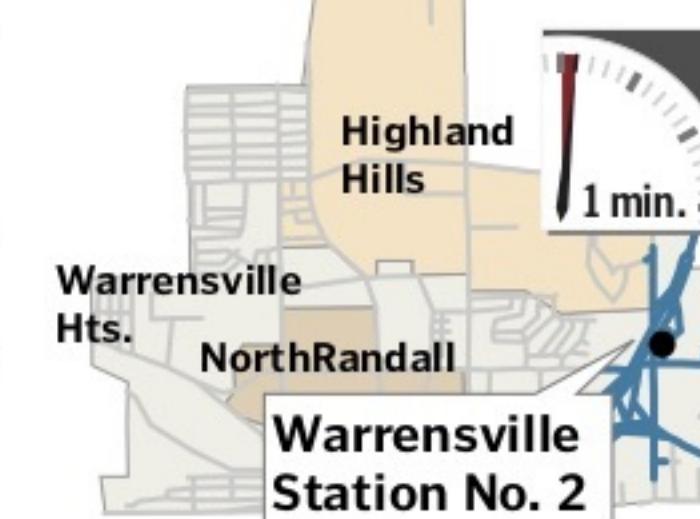
Within eight minutes: Any of the stations could reach any residence within the three communities.

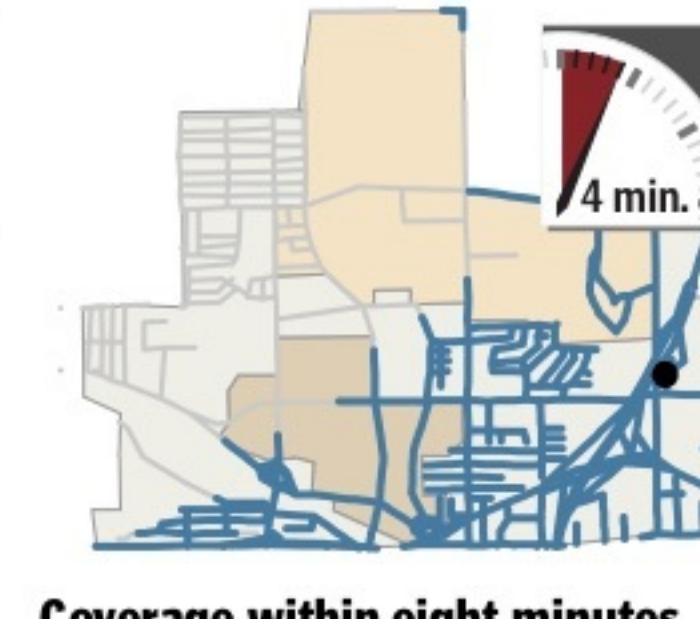
"If the three towns wanted to save money and pool their resources into a single station, the station at North Randall would serve them best," Tse concluded.

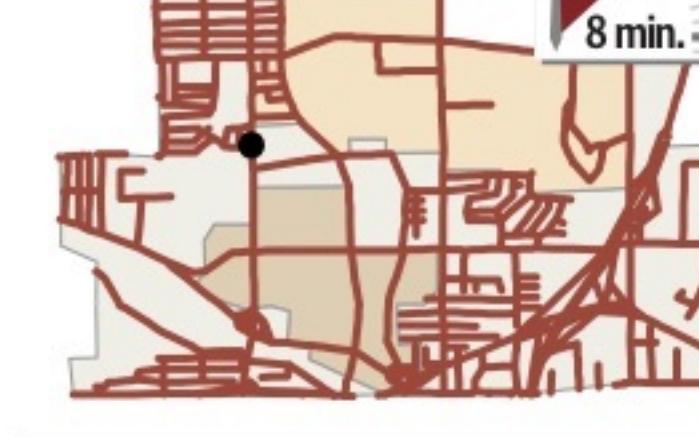
From Warrensville Heights stations

Coverage within one minute 

Coverage within four minutes 

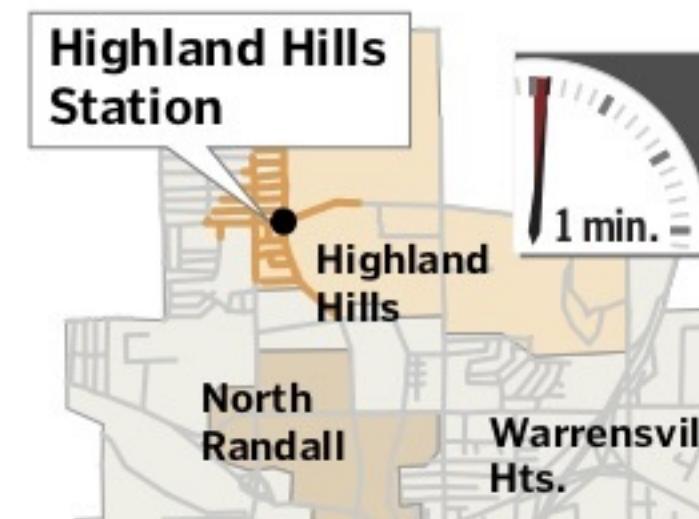
Coverage within one minute 

Coverage within four minutes 

Coverage within eight minutes 

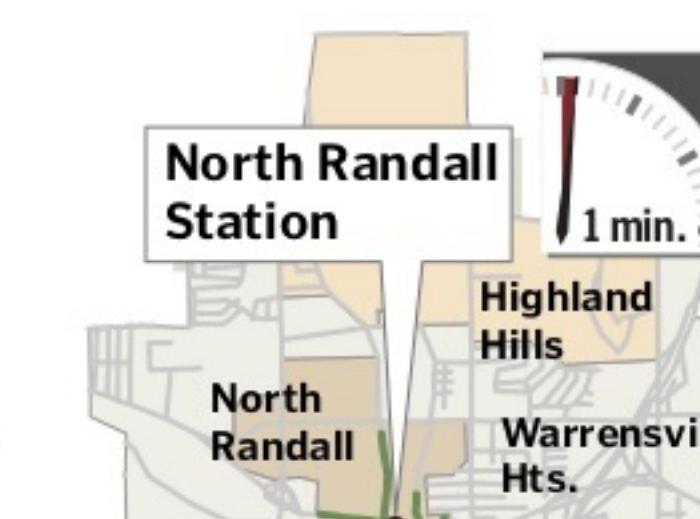
Coverage within eight minutes 

From Highland Hills

Coverage within one minute 

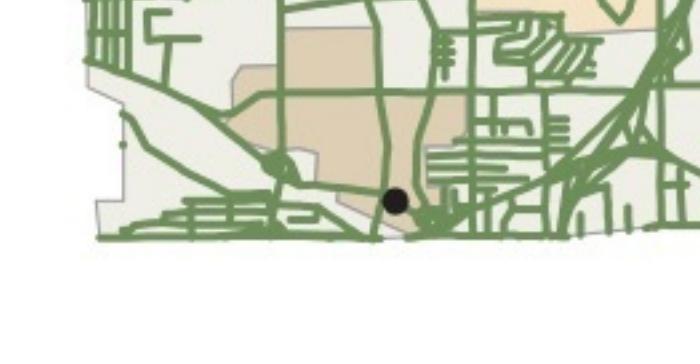
Coverage within four minutes 

From North Randall

Coverage within one minute 

Coverage within four minutes 

Coverage within eight minutes 

Coverage within eight minutes 

MAPS COURTESY OF ARCHIE TSE

| Fire department | Population protected | Locations on map | Firefighters Full-time | Part-time | Ladder trucks | Pumper trucks | Department budget, 2002 | ISO* |
|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------|------|
| Bay Village | 16,087 | 1 | 26 | 0 | 1 | 2 | \$1,634,881 | 5 |
| Beachwood | 12,186 | 2-3 | 41 | 1 | 1 | 2 | \$3,807,309 | 4 |
| Bedford | 14,214 | 4 | 30 | 0 | 1 | 2 | \$2,260,125 | 4 |
| Bedford Heights | 11,375 | 5 | 28 | 0 | 1 | 2 | \$2,171,811 | 5 |
| Berea | 18,970 | 6 | 23 | 0 | 1 | 2 | \$1,599,956 | 5 |
| Brecksville | 13,382 | 7 | 14 | 22 | 1 | 2 | \$2,002,385 | 5 |
| Broadview Heights | 15,967 | 8-9 | 17 | 15 | 2 | 2 | \$1,796,981 | 6 |
| Brook Park | 21,218 | 10-12 | 40 | 0 | 1 | 4 | \$3,081,342 | 4 |
| Brooklyn | 11,586 | 13 | 30 | 8 | 1 | 3 | \$2,335,012 | 3 |
| Brooklyn Heights | 1,558 | 14 | 0 | 26 | 1 | 2 | \$482,543 | 6 |
| Chagrin Falls | 9,139 | 15 | 4 | 24 | 1 | 2 | \$900,000 | 5 |
| Cleveland | 479,857 | 16-42 | 990 | 0 | 12 | 24 | \$81,648,324 | 3 |
| Cleveland Heights | 49,958 | 43-44 | 78 | 0 | 2 | 2 | \$6,395,574 | 2 |
| Cuyahoga Heights | 599 | 45 | 27 | 0 | 1 | 2 | \$2,376,196 | 4 |
| East Cleveland | 27,217 | 46-47 | 52 | 0 | 1 | 3 | \$3,847,615 | 4 |
| Euclid | 52,717 | 48-51 | 80 | 0 | 2 | 4 | \$7,207,295 | 3 |
| Fairview Park | 17,572 | 52 | 29 | 0 | 1 | 2 | \$1,614,832 | 4 |
| Garfield Heights | 30,734 | 53-54 | 46 | 0 | 2 | 1 | \$3,775,557 | 4 |
| Gates Mills** | 2,493 | 55 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | \$79,536 | 6/9 |
| Highland Heights | 8,082 | 56 | 18 | 14 | 0 | 2 | \$1,529,939 | 4 |
| Highland Hills | 1,618 | 57 | 1 | 21 | 1 | 1 | \$193,808 | 6 |
| Independence | 7,109 | 58 | 26 | 9 | 1 | 3 | \$2,395,959 | 6 |
| Lakewood | 56,646 | 59-61 | 79 | 0 | 2 | 3 | \$5,284,665 | 3 |
| Lyndhurst | 15,279 | 62 | 26 | 0 | 1 | 1 | \$2,078,675 | 4 |
| Maple Heights | 27,356 | 63-64 | 43 | 0 | 1 | 2 | \$3,480,152 | 4 |
| Mayfield Heights | 19,386 | 65 | 33 | 0 | 1 | 2 | \$2,734,998 | 4 |
| Mayfield | 3,435 | 66 | 7 | 20 | 1 | 2 | \$1,425,735 | 5 |
| Middleburg Heights | 15,542 | 67 | 25 | 0 | 1 | 2 | \$2,537,230 | 5 |
| Newburgh Heights** | 2,389 | 68 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | \$128,182 | 5 |
| North Olmsted | 34,113 | 69-70 | 46 | 0 | 1 | 2 | \$4,874,254 | 4 |
| North Randall | 906 | 71 | 0 | 33 | 1 | 1 | \$207,775 | 6 |
| North Royalton | 28,648 | 73 | 29 | 0 | 0 | 4 | \$2,798,000 | 6 |
| Oakwood | 4,867 | 74 | 1 | 46 | 1 | 2 | \$661,934 | 5 |
| Olmsted Falls | 7,962 | 75 | 7 | 23 | 1 | 1 | \$961,698 | 5 |
| Olmsted Twp. | 10,575 | 76 | 19 | 0 | 1 | 1 | \$1,017,046 | 5/9 |
| Orange | 3,236 | 77 | 0 | 37 | 0 | 2 | \$426,224 | 4/9 |
| Parma | 85,655 | 78-82 | 102 | 0 | 1 | 4 | \$8,596,000 | 3 |
| Parma Heights | 21,659 | 83 | 30 | 0 | 1 | 2 | \$2,753,909 | 4 |
| Pepper Pike | 6,040 | 84 | 14 | 15 | 0 | 2 | \$1,524,085 | 5 |
| Richmond Heights | 10,944 | 85 | 17 | 15 | 1 | 1 | \$1,828,501 | 4 |
| Rocky River | 20,735 | 86 | 30 | 0 | 1 | 1 | \$2,785,317 | 4 |
| Seven Hills | 12,080 | 87 | 0 | 35 | 0 | 3 | \$527,309 | 4 |
| Shaker Heights | 29,405 | 88-89 | 65 | 0 | 1 | 2 | \$6,377,112 | 3 |
| Solon | 22,251 | 90-92 | 60 | 0 | 1 | 3 | \$4,743,799 | 4 |
| South Euclid | 23,537 | 93 | 32 | 0 | 1 | 1 | \$2,581,000 | 4 |
| Strongsville | 43,858 | 94-97 | 56 | 0 | 2 | 3 | \$4,693,159 | 4 |
| University Heights | 14,146 | 98 | 29 | 0 | 1 | 1 | \$2,554,123 | 4 |
| Valley View | 2,179 | 99 | 12 | 20 | 0 | 2 | \$1,129,403 | 4 |
| Warrensville Heights | 15,109 | 100-101 | 32 | 0 | 1 | 2 | \$2,906,000 | 4 |
| Westlake | 31,719 | 102-103 | 37 | 1 | 2 | 2 | \$3,729,442 | 4 |
| Woodmere | 828 | 72 | 0 | 26 | 1 | 1 | \$232,165 | 6/9 |
| TOTALS | 1,394,123 | | 2,405 | 414 | 62 | 128 | \$208,714,872 | |

*The private Insurance Services Office's fire risk score is used to set homeowner insurance rates. The lower the number, the better the rating.

Four communities have split ratings, meaning that some neighborhoods have greater fire risk than others.

**Volunteer department

Cleveland, Chagrin Falls, Maple Heights, Oakwood and Solon cover some neighboring communities. List does not include departments at Cleveland Hopkins International and Burke Lakefront airports.

SOURCES: The departments